[28th March 1953

Sri T. C. NARAYANAN NAMBIAR :—" In his answer the Hon. Minister said that E. T. Kunhan has since resigned. May I know, Sir, what made Sri Kunhan resign from the Council?"

The Hon. Sri S. B. P. PATTABHI RAMA RAO :—" According to rule 2 of the Tribes Advisory Council Rules, the Council shall consist of ten members, of whom not less than eight members shall be representatives of the Scheduled Tribes in the Madras Legislative Assembly, provided that if the number of representatives of the Scheduled Tribes in the Madras Legislative Assembly is less than eight, the remaining seats shall be filled by other members of those tribes. Accordingly, those members who were elected to the Assembly to fill the seats reserved for the Scheduled Tribes were appointed as members of the Council in order to fill the seats intended for representatives of the Scheduled Tribes in the Assembly. It was thought that Sri E. T. Kunhan was also a member elected to the Assembly to fill the seat reserved for the Scheduled Tribes, because his name was wrongly shown in the G.O. No. 680, Public (Election), dated 1st March 1952, in which the names of all M.L.As. were published and hence he was appointed as a member of the Council. Subsequently it was brought to notice that he was elected to the reserved seat for Scheduled Castes and could not therefore continue as a member. The Member was therefore requested to resign and he has since resigned."

Sri M. JAGANNATHAN :—" Sir, will the Hon. Minister for Rural Welfare be pleased to give one or two instances wherein the advice of the Council has been implemented by the Government for the betterment of the tribes?"

Mr. SPEAKER :—The hon. Member may put a separate question."

District Harijan Welfare Committees.

* 231 Q.—Sri G. RAMA RAO : Will the Hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(a) when the District Harijan Welfare Committees and Provincial Harijan Welfare Board were formed;

(b) whether they were formed only for three years; and

(c) when the Government propose to form the new committees?

The Hon. Dr. M. V. KRISHNA RAO :—" (a) These committees were first formed in 1938 and they are being reconstituted periodically. The State Harijan Welfare Committee was last reconstituted in August 1950 and the District Harijan Welfare Committees in March 1951.

" (b) The term of office of the non-official members of the reconstituted Committees is three years.

28th March 1953]

"(*c*) The present term of the State Harijan Welfare Committee and the District Harijan Welfare Committees expires only in August 1953 and March 1954 respectively. The question whether these Committees should be reconstituted earlier is under examination."

SRI G. RAMA RAO :—"Are the Government aware, Sir, that the existing Members are unpopular among the public, particularly among Harijans, as they are doing business in the name of Harijan Welfare and will the Government therefore end their term immediately."

THE HON. DR. M. V. KRISHNA RAO :—"I cannot accept the opinion expressed by the hon. Member, Sir."

SRI C. SUBBARAYUDU :—"May I know, Sir, which is the authority that appoints the non-official Members of the District Committees and the Provincial Committee and the qualification required for being Members of the Committees?"

THE HON. DR. M. V. KRISHNA RAO :—"The Government constitute the Provincial Committee and the District Committees are constituted under orders of Government on the recommendation of the Collectors."

SRI K. C. GOPALAN UNNI :—"Sir, have these Committees any control over the District Harijan Welfare Officers who seem to be under the control of nobody?"

THE HON. DR. M. V. KRISHNA RAO :—"These committees are purely advisory, Sir."

SRI G. JOSEPH :—"అయ్యా ఈ Harijan Welfare Committees లో ఇతర రాజకీయపక్షాలకు చెందినటువంటి వారెవరైనా ఉన్నారా, లేక అచ్చంగా కాంగ్రెస్‌వారేనా? ఈ విషయాన్ని తెలియచేయవలసిందని కోరుతున్నాను."

THE HON. DR. M. V. KRISHNA RAO :—"The constitution of the committees and the nomination of personnel are not based on any party considerations. Those who are interested in Harijan welfare are appointed."

SRI G. SIVASANKARA REDDI :—"Could not the concerned Members of the Legislature be co-opted?"

THE HON. DR. M. V. KRISHNA RAO :—"Perhaps it may be that Members of the Legislature who are interested may be there. But they are not there according to any rule."

SRI T. NAGI REDDI :—"Sir, the Hon. Minister replied very clearly that he did not accept the opinion of the hon. Member that the Members who were once nominated had become unpopular with the public. Does the Minister accept the opinion of the people who have already given their verdict that those nominated to the Committees are not popular? The verdict was given a year back and I hope the Hon. Minister will accept the verdict of the people?"

[28th March 1953

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—" I am sorry to intervene Sir. There is a certain regularity, a certain propriety to be observed. When Members were appointed at a particular moment and they hold the office or they were told that they would hold the office for a particular period, it is not usual to take occasional votes or a gallup poll now and then and dismiss people for alleged unpopularity on that basis."

9-20 a.m. SRI K. R. SAMBANDAM :—" Since the Hon. Minister says that it is an advisory committee, may I know what is the advice given so far? "

THE HON. DR. M. V. KRISHNA RAO :—" Advice was given from time to time. There was a report about Harijan welfare and it contained advice as to the lines on which Government should undertake the work, and it is being implemented."

District Forest Advisory Committees.

* 232 *Q.*—SRI G. SIVASANKARA REDDI : Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state whether District Forest Advisory Committees consisting of officials, non-officials and members of the Legislature of the concerned district are proposed to be formed, and if so, when?

THE HON. DR. R. NAGAN GOUDA :—" The matter is under the consideration of the Government."

SRI G. SIVASANKARA REDDI :—" In view of the fact that much hardship and inconvenience is caused to those living near the forests on account of the restrictions that the Forest department are putting, is it not necessary to constitute these committees immediately in order to receive suggestions from them for removing all these hardships and inconveniences? "

THE HON. DR. R. NAGAN GOUDA :—" It is a question of policy and so it has to be done with some care and consideration. Reports from the Chief Conservator and the subordinate Conservators have been called for and as soon as they are received, necessary steps will be taken in the matter."

Headquarters of the Deputy Commissioner for Prohibition, North Division.

* 233 *Q.*—SRI G. SIVASANKARA REDDI : Will the Hon. the Minister for Prohibition be pleased to state the name of the Headquarters of the Deputy Commissioner for Prohibition, North Division, and also the names and distance of the nearest place of his jurisdiction from headquarters?

THE HON. SRI V. C. PALANISWAMI GOUNDER :— Madras is the Headquarters of the Deputy Commissioner of Prohibition (Enforcement), Northern Division. Cuddapah